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Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 05762 051159Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------020159 051201Z /11
P 051146Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6720
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

S E C R E T AMMAN 05762

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, LE, XF
SUBJECT: CROWN PRINCE HASSAN--JORDANIAN CONTACTS WITH SYRIA ON LEBANON

1. IN BRIEF MEETING WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN JULY 5, I ASKED ABOUT ISRAELI RADIO REPORTS THAT HUSSEIN WAS SENDING EMISSARIES TO SYRIA REGARDING RECENT FIGHTING IN LEBANON.

2. HASSAN SAID THIS IS NOT EXACTLY TRUE, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT CONTACTS WITH SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE CIRCLES OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LEBANON.

3. THERE HAS BEEN NO CLEAR REACTION TO DATE FROM THE SYRIANS ON WHAT IS GOING ON. THERE ARE PLEAS FROM VARIOUS LEBANESE FACTIONS (HASSAN CONFIRMED CHAMOUN) COMPLAINING ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE ADF AND ASKING THAT THE SYRIAN MILITARY ACTIVITY AND PRESENCE IN LEBANON BE TERMINATED.

4. HASSAN ALSO DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT WITH SAUDI INTELLIGENCE CHIEF PRINCE TURKI WHEN THE LATTER WAS HERE SOME DAYS AGO.

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5. HASSAN CURRENTLY EXAMINING NEED FOR AND CONSEQUENCES OF SYRIAN REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT BY UNIFIL. HE DOES NOT BELIEVE SYRIANS WOULD BE AT ALL INCLINED TO GO AND HAS NOT HEARD FROM DIRECT CONTACTS WITH THE SYRIANS THAT THEY ARE SO INCLINED.

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6. HASSAN SAID HE HAD RECENT BRIEFING FROM UNIFIL OFFICERS INDICATING RELATIONSHIPS WITH PLO ARE SATISFACTORY IN THE SOUTH.

7. HASSAN OFFERED REMARK THAT SYRIANS WERE ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE CONTACTS WITH JORDAN AND EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THIS WAS BECAUSE OF PRESSURE WHICH BOTH SYRIA AND JORDAN FELT AT CURRENT TIME WITH RESPECT TO THE AREA, LEBANON AND NEGOTIATIONS. PICKERING

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